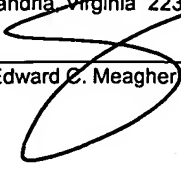


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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By:  Date: March 26, 2004
Edward C. Meagher

PATENT

Docket No. 1830CONDIVCON3 / 203-1742CONDIVCON3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : SHERTS ET AL.
TITLE : **SURGICAL RETRACTOR**
PARENT
SERIAL NO. : 10/153,385
PARENT
FILED : May 22, 2002
PARENT
EXAMINER : Anu Ramana
PARENT
ART UNIT : 3732

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified continuation application as follows:

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the drawings begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.